

F-8036

Ser. No. 10/731,943

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 remain in this application.

The Office Action requires election of one of the following: Species I, drawn to removing the flash by using a laser, for example as recited in claims 2-5; and Species II, drawn removing the flash by injecting a water jet, for example as recited in claim 6.

Allowance of a generic claim requires consideration of all claims in the application. The Office Action indicates that no claims are generic. However, Applicant disagrees because Claim 1 is neither restricted to the use of a laser or a water jet. Applicant asserts that Claim 1 is therefore generic and that the Examiner should analyze Claim 1 for patentability along with the claims elected herein.

Applicant elects Species I, drawn to claims 2-5.

If there is any fee(s) due, the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) or fee(s) deficiency or credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

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In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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